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- supplying a first gaseous or vapor phase composition disposed to provide a hydrolyzable glass precursor to the inlet of the reaction chamber;

supplying water as a second gaseous or vapor phase composition to said inlet of the reaction chamber;

reacting the water and the first gaseous or vapor phase composition in the reaction chamber to form an aerosol of glass particles;

directing the aerosol along said reaction chamber and through an outlet of said reaction chamber onto a target on which the preform is formed; and

depositing the aerosol on the target.

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4. (Amended) Method according to claim 1 wherein the first and second gaseous or vapor phase compositions are supplied at a predetermined temperature to the reaction chamber.

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14. (Amended) Method according to claim 1 wherein the first and second gaseous or vapor phase compositions are obtained by separately heating under pressure the said first and second compositions, wherein the first and second compositions are contained as pure liquid in separate supply tanks.

REMARKS

In the present Amendment, Applicants have amended claims 1, 4, and 14 to more appropriately define the invention. Of the pending claims, claims 1-14 are under consideration.